Bible & Daily Living

Advent: a time of waiting, expecting

The Bible and Daily Living
By William L. Trimyer
THE PROMISED SON
Lesson for December 12, 1982
Bible Study Passage: Luke 1:39-56
INTRODUCTION

The season of Advent is upon us as we prepare once again to celebrate the spirit of Christmas. Advent is traditionally a time of waiting and expectation. The early Hebrews awaited the long-expected Messiah, who would come and smite the enemies of God's people and right all of the world's wrongs.

Advent is also a season to reflect upon the promises of God. From the days of Noah people have not ceased to believe in the promises of God. Sure, there have been times when all of us have wondered if God is true to his promises, but our past experience and knowledge of God's prior actions indicates that God can be trusted to deliver.

We can trust the grace of God to do what he says he will do. Human promises are easily broken or delayed, but God will, in his own time, bring about his divine plan and purpose. But waiting is such a struggle for us, for we do not like to wait. We wait in rooms marked "waiting" and in checkout lines. We wait for pain to subside and for life to get better. This week's lesson helps us to look at God's promise of a son to Elizabeth and Mary.

VISITS FROM THE ANGEL GABRIEL (Luke 1:5-38)

Angels are generally portrayed in the Bible as heralds of good tidings. The announcement of a coming child is not always "good tidings" to everyone. The news of pregnancy can be perceived at first as bad news, especially if the pregnancy was unwanted in the first place.

Luke tells us that Gabriel came to Elizabeth and announced that she would bear a son. This was a strange announcement in light of Elizabeth's advancement in years. Zacharias, the father-to-be, was struken dumb when he heard the news.

Mary also received the news of her pregnancy from the angel Gabriel. The circumstances surrounding the announcement to Elizabeth and Mary were exceptional. Elizabeth became pregnant through natural means and Mary was impregnated by the Holy Spirit of God.

SHARING THE JOY(Luke 10:9-45)

It is natural for people who share similar experiences to want to compare notes and swap stories. Since Mary and Elizabeth were related by marriage, it was only natural that they get together to share their feelings and joy. After all, both Mary and Elizabeth were playing a significant part in the divine plan to introduce the Messiah to the world.

Elizabeth was deeply moved that "the mother of my Lord should come to me?" It is interesting that Luke's gospel recognizes the role and prominence of women in the life of Jesus. The prominence of Mary is not in her role as "mother of God" but in her obedience to the will of God.

A SPECIAL MOTHER AND SON (Luke 1:46-56)

Mary was the fitting mother to give birth to a very special baby. She had the humility, obedience, and love to be the mothering figure Jesus would need. Elizabeth's affirmation of Mary only strengthened the honor she felt as the chosen woman to become the mother of the One who would change history and human life.

Mary expressed heart-felt gratitude for God's choosing her to play such a significant role in her redemptive plan. Mary is not to be worshipped but affirmed and followed as an example of humility, openness, and obedience.

Dr. Trimyer is Chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Illinois (WLYP)

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Children's Choir plans musical at local church

The Children II Carol Choir of Liberty Baptist Church directed by Mrs. J. Franklin Vaughan will present their Christmas musical Sunday evening, Dec. 12, at 7:30. Area residents are invited to attend.

Children participating are Danny Richardson, Brian Canada, Brett Stratton, Jeff Stratton, Brent Harrison, Jason Fox, Nathan Lee, Bobby Swanberg, Al Cestaro, Gina Cestaro, Daryl Dawson, Steve Stratton, Niki Harris, Stacey O'Brien, Rob Williams, Shannon Williams, Jennifer Tweedy, Lori Ranson, Becca Carta, Beth Carter, Roxanne Williams, Lara Williams, Tora Johnson, Jody Youngblood, Julia Youngblood, Sheri Williams, Jay Stubblefield, Robbie Coleman, Wade Mays, Chris Smith, Jennifer White, Angela Thompson, Angie Dawson and Thomas Nolan.

The Children I Cherub Choir for four and five year olds will also sing. They are Jamie Dawson, Angie LeGrand, Stephanie Harris, Brandon Lee, Michael Tweedy, Michael Gillette, Samuel Williams, Drew Smith and Thomas Mays.

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"THE EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE," a local youth performing group, will present their Christmas concert and play, "Christmas is Jesus," next Sunday, Dec. 19, starting at 7:30 p.m. at Liberty Baptist Church in Appomattox. A nursery will be provided during the performance.

Christmas program scheduled

"For Us a Child is Born", a short Christmas Cantata by J. S. Bach written for mixed chorus and solos will be performed by the Appomattox Courthouse Presbyterian Church choir on Sunday morning, December 12 at 11:00 a.m.

The choir, under the direction of Miss Sue Wright, will feature soloist Tommy Terry, baritone; Lloyd Garber, tenor; Pat Evans, contralto; Sandra Martin, contralto; and Virginia Carnefix, pianist.

The public is cordially invited to attend.

Death Notices

Murrell Swanson Crews

Murrell Swanson Crews, 76, of Route 2, Madison Heights, died Saturday, Dec. 4, in Lynchburg General Hospital.

He was the husband of Myrtle Hesson Crews. Born in Appomattox County, he was a son of the late John Howlet Crews and Rebecca Moore Crews. He was a retired employee of Beard Texaco and was a member of Woodmen of the World and Trinity United Methodist Church.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by five sons, John Murrell Crews, James William Crews, Donald Leroy Crews and Harold Marshall Crews, all of Madison Heights, and Edward Swanson Crews, Lynchburg; two daughters, Christine C. Dolinger, Lynchburg, and Mildred C. Wood, Madison Heights; four brothers, Lyle M. Crews of Bladenburg, Md., Walker L. Crews, Manassas, Raymond C. Crews, Appomattox, and Elmo H. Crews, Lynchburg; two sisters, Lucille C. Bell of Charlotte, N.C., and Mabel C. Moore, Appomattox; 16 grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were conducted at 1 p.m. Monday in Whitten Timberlake Chapel by the Revs. Stephen Hassmer and W. Murrell Stump. Interment was in Presbyterian Cemetery.

Whitten Timberlake Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Willard Fleshman

RED HOUSE - Willard Fleshman, 76, died early Thursday morning, Dec. 2, at his residence.

He was born in Charlotte County, a son of the late Willie J. and Mary Alice Ferguson Fleshman. He was a retired farmer and a member of Trinity United Methodist Church, Red House.

He is survived by his wife, Lil[illegible] Fleshman Fleshman; a daughter, Mrs. June F. Myers of Lynchburg; two brothers, Hudson Fleshman of Blue Ridge and Everett Fleshman of Phenix; two sisters, Mrs. Bessie Hamlett of Phenix and Mrs. Rosa Wilbun of Red House, and a granddaughter, Holly Renee Myers.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Saturday from Trinity United Methodist Church by the Rev. Phillip Howell. Burial was in Hat Creek Presbyterian Church cemetery in Campbell County.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Andrew Thomas (Buck) Huff

GREENWOOD - Andrew Thomas (Buck) Huff, 63, died of cancer Tuesday, Nov., 28, in the McGuire VA Hospital in Richmond.

Born in Amherst County, he was the son of the late Andrew Carrington Huff and Lora Taylor Huff. He was a member of St. James United Methodist Church, a retired salesman for the Charlottesville Oil Company and a veteran of World War II.

He is survived by his wife, Annis Wauchope Huff; two sons, Thomas Houston Huff of Denver, Colo., and John Larry Huff of Grand Junction, Colo.; [illegible]ghter, Andrea Huff Foote, [illegible]; a brother, Harold Huff[illegible]ton; a half brother, Eug[illegible]ook Grimes, Richmond; a sis[illegible]ginia Wood, Gladstone; [illegible] sisters, Ann Grimes [illegible]ght and Mary Grimes [illegible]nick, both of Gladstone; and Eric Huff, all of Denver, Colo., and Melanie and Matthew Foote, both of Crozet.

Funeral services were conducted Friday at 11 a.m. in Driskill Funeral Chapel in Amherst with interment in Amherst Cemetery.

Driskill Funeral Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

Lewis Wayne Moore

Lewis Wayne (Butch) Moore, 38, of Appomattox, died early Tuesday, Nov. 28, in Albemarle County as the result of an automobile accident.

His wife was Brenda Terry Moore. Born in Appomattox, he was a son of Burnace Rice Moore and Rebecca W. Moore of Appomattox. He was a member of Trinity United Methodist Church and was a veteran of the Vietnam War.

Other survivors include a

[Continued on page 5]

Cantata planned in Campbell

The Rustburg Christian Chorus will present its sixth annual Christmas Cantata "Noel, Jesus is Born", by Lanny Wolfe, Don Marsh, and Bob Benson, three times during the holiday season.

The choir will perform at New Concord Presbyterian Church Dec. 14, at Diamond Hill Presbyterian Church Dec. 21, and at Yellow Branch Baptist Church Dec. 26. All performances begin at 7:30 p.m.

Directed by Teresa Russell, the group is composed of 35 members from ten churches in the Campbell County area. Roy Blankinship is technical director. Van Tanner is narrator.

Taped orchestral accompaniment will be used. A children's chorus, "God's Children," will also be featured. "Come All Ye Faithful" will be the invitational hymn, which will be followed by the chorus singing the "Hallelujah Chorus".

Soloists in order of appearance include Morris Stauffer, Pearline Douglas, Shelby Cutshall, Zora Mosebrook, Thom Phillips, Rusty Russell, June Keesee, Nellie Finch, and Bob Winston.

Presbyterians plan programm

The popular 'Twas The Night Before Christmas' will be presented on Sunday evening, Dec. 12, at 7 p.m. at the Appomattox Court House Presbyterian Church.

The marionette show is given by the Junior and Senior Youth Fellowship groups under the direction of Mrs. Mildred McKenzie Williams, founder and creator of the McKenzie Marionettes.

It is a story of the Christmas spirit . . . that joyous, wonderful magical spirit that fills the hearts and souls of all mankind during the Christmas season. It is a parable of giving and sharing. It is given in an atmosphere of the real Christmas spirit when old and young alike come together in the spirit of Christian love.

The public is cordially invited to attend and to remain for fellowship and refreshments following the program.

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Local youth's award-winning essay

Tobacco's role in U.S. history explored

By BRETT MARSTON

Tobacco - a word synonymous with and almost as well known as our thirteen original colonies - is not only a Southern tradition, but one of the financial cornerstones on which this great American nation was built. Tobacco was one of the first cash crops which the struggling settlers to the new world exported to their native country England. It was the crop which made them aware of the potential of this new and fertile land.

Many tobacco seasons have come and gone since John Rolfe first planted this crop in 1612 in the colony of Jamestown, Virginia. Family tree after family tree of Americans, including my own, bear the names of proud tobacco farmers. These were the enduring, hard working men and women who depended on tobacco for a livelihood; often for survival. Today, the farmer still struggles with land and nature for that same livelihood, yet continues to hope for more than that. Now it is not only the farm family that seeks to earn a living from tobacco, but thousands of others who hold jobs which are directly or indirectly related to tobacco production, now a multi-million dollar business.

Historically and economically, tobacco has meant and continues to mean money in the pockets of the American people. It does also mean that people are spending money and lots of it for tobacco products. For example, American consumers spent $21.3 billion on tobacco products in 1979, according to the Wharton study. Included in this figure is the sale of a record 624 billion cigarettes. It is with such a financial base as this that tobacco stands as the United States' sixth leading cash crop. Furthermore, the sale of these tobacco products generated $7.6 billion toward the Gross National Product in 1979.

Going hand in glove with a healthy economy, tobacco means thousands of jobs for people, both in the private and government sectors. The facts tell the story. For instance, the tobacco industry employs 393,000 full time employees each year. These jobs, directly related to tobacco production, include the field worker, the auctioneer, and even the local salesman. There are actually 2670 full time jobs in the auction warehouse. Indirect employment in areas such as matchbook manufacturing and flavor formulating account for 1.6 million full time jobs. There are 880 thousand more jobs in the wholesaling and retailing of tobacco products. There are still other people who process paper, film coat cigarette packs, and perform related tasks. The tobacco industry alone accounts for 4.4% of all jobs of this type in the United States. Directly and indirectly, 2.5% America's labor force is employed in the economically vital tobacco industry. States such as Kentucky and North Carolina relate much higher percentages than this figure to the tobacco industry. Even still, on a part time basis, some 17,000 persons are employed in tobacco harvesting. All in all in the U.S., 2 million people earned over 29.9 billion dollars in tobacco related jobs. It would seem to speak for itself that tobacco is meeting one of the immediate economic needs of this country by providing both employment and income to the American economy.

Tobacco means money to America in still another way. The U.S. is the world's leading exporter and importer of the golden leaf. The U.S. ships one-third of its crop overseas which directly contributes $2.2 billion to the U.S.'s total exports. It also contributes $500 million to the nation's imports. This has a positive effect on the United States' balance of payments of approximately 2 billion dollars. These figures are valid proof that tobacco is economically important to the U.S. even on an international basis.

Like a wheel with many spokes, the far reaching effects of tobacco on the U.S. go on and on. There still remains to be mentioned the effect on the economy of taxes from tobacco and its related programs. Taxpapers pay. The government and the country make use of the dollars taken in. Excise taxes amount to $6 million dollars for the government. This money pumped in at federal, state, and local levels, is used for such public projects as replacing and improving roads and for the subsidized lunch program. The main parts of the tobacco industry as we know it account for a dollar of every one hundred dollars at the Washington, D.C. level. In the states, tobacco contributes one dollar and fifty cents of every one hundred dollars in total tax collected monies. In addition to this amount, approximately $14.3 million at the federal level and $7.7 million at the state and local levels are collected in taxes that are not directly related to tobacco, but find origin there. It is through this channel that tobacco is helping to support the American economy and contribute to a better America.

Money, industry, government, employment, and trade are all important facets of why tobacco is economically important. However, at the roots of the tobacco world lies an important source of economic value that cannot be overlooked. It is the individual, the tobacco farmer, who loves his land and takes pride in his work. He cares for his soil and crop in a labor of love. As he feeds and clothes his family, he at the same time, helps to preserve a bit of the rich American heritage of the 1600's. It is impossible to put a dollar value on this man. Tobacco is his life.

Yes, tobacco is an important part of America's heritage. Throughout the years it has expanded in economic importance. Its roots run deep in American soil yielding a harvest that is life giving, both in spirit and in economic rewards to the American people.

Note: Information for this article was taken from **America's Golden Leaf National Edition, Answers to the Most Asked Question About Cigarettes, and Virginia and Tobacco, A Chapter in America's Industrial Growth.**

Six-year plan preparation slated

Preparation of the Appomattox County Six-Year Plan for Special Education will begin on December 13 when members of the Advisory Committee for Special Education meet in the School Board Annex at 10 a.m. The plan will be submitted to the School Board for action at the regular January meeting.

Interested persons, who are unable to attend, may call any of the committee members. They are Mr. Bruce Williams, Ms. Terri Barron, Mrs. Judy Taylor, Mrs. Eva Moore, Mrs. Brenda Richardson, Mrs. Danny Rogers, Ms. Shirley Dillard, Mrs. Mildred Thompson, Mrs. Dorothy Hastings, Mrs. Cecil Nash, Mrs. Teddy Garrette, Mrs. W. C. Dav is, Mrs. Ann Reynolds, Mr. Bol Jamerson, Mrs. Peggy Marshall, Mr. J. B. Drinkard, Jr., Mr. C. T. Bowman, Mrs. Denise King, Mr. Lloyd G. Walton, and Mrs. Jean A. Hesson.

Robert E. West

Robert West is promoted

Robert E. West, United States Marine Corp., was promoted to the rank of corporal on November 10, the 207 birthday of the United States Marine Corps. He is the son of Harrison and Shirley West of Route 4, Appomattox.

Cpl. West joined the corp in June of 1979 and has traveled extensively. He has seven months left on his first enlistment. He is a 1979 graduate of Appomattox County High School.

Deaths

[Continued from page 4]

daughter, Vicky Lynn Moore; a sister, Carol Coleman, Appomattox; two brothers, B. Allan Moore, Concord, and James C. Moore, Evington; and his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Mattie Paris, Appomattox.

Funeral services were conducted at 2 p.m. Thursday at Robinson Funeral Home with burial in Concord Cemetry.

Robinson Funeral Home was in charge of arrangements.

Mrs. Willis Morris Hawkins

GLADYS - Mrs. Willis Morris Hawkins, 81, died Thursday, Dec. 2, at the home of her daughter in Appomattox.

She was the wife of the late Walter W. Hawkins and daughter of the late John Vaughan Morris and Minnie Price Morris. She was a member of Wesleybury United Methodist Church.

Survivors include a son, William (Morris) Hawkins of Lynchburg; three daughters, Mrs. Kenneth (Evelyn) Austin and Mrs. Roy (Barbara) Dillon, both of Gladys, and Mrs. Douglas (Shirley) Jennings of Appomattox; nine grandchildren; one great-grandchildren; and two brothers, Aldron Morris of Lynchburg and John Morris of Gladys.

Funeral services were conducted Saturday at 2 p.m. in Wesleybury United Methodist Church by the Revs. Eugene Condrey and Sam Cardwell. Interment was in the church cemetery.

Flynn Funeral Home, Gladys, was in charge of arrangements.

John A. Nowlin

John A. Nowlin, Candlers Mountain Road, Lynchburg, departed this life Saturday, Dec. 4, at his residence.

Born in Campbell County, he was the son of the late Mrs. Cora Nowlin. His wife is Mrs. Ella Nowlin.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two stepsons, Roger Nowlin, Concord, and Stonewall Nowlin, Lynchburg; a stepgranddaughter, Mrs. Rhodie Herndon, Rustburg; two brothers-in-law, Mrs. Iaisa Jackson and Mrs. Loretta Beverly, both of Rustburg; and other relatives and friends.

Graveside services were held Monday at 4 p.m. in the Nowlin family cemetery, Candlers Mountain Road, the Rev. Edward Austin officiating.

Carl B. Hutcherson Funeral Home was in charge of the arrangements.

Harry D. Woolridge

Harry D. (Jake) Woolridge, age 91, of 3425 Bunker Drive, S.W., Roanoke, died Saturday, Dec. 4, at his residence. He was a retired owner and vice president of Skyline Lumber Company.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Jane Meredith Woolridge; a daughter, Mrs. Lucy B. Miller, Troutville, two sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth W. Watson, Suitland, Md.; Mrs. Grace W. Peterson, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.; a grandson, Garland Edward Miller, III; also several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held at Lotz Roanoke Chapel Monday at 11 a.m. with the Rev. Robert M. Hamner officiating. Interment followed in Prospect United Methodist Church Cemetery, Prospect, Virginia, with a graveside service at 3 p.m.

Lotz Roanoke Chapel was in charge of arrangements.

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